

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please ADD new claim 18 in accordance with the following:

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer readable medium containing a specification generating program read by a computer connected to an input device and a display device and controlling the computer to execute:

disposing a comment statement including a corresponding unique comment keyword at all positions in a source code where a comment statement can be disposed;

generating specification data by extracting the comment statements each including the corresponding unique comment keyword and joining the comment statements together;

displaying the specification data on the display device;

changing the comment statement in the specification data in accordance with an indication of changing the displayed specification data, when the indication is given through the input device; and

replacing the comment statement in the source code with the comment statement in the specification data whose corresponding unique comment keyword is coincident with the corresponding unique comment keyword of said comment statement in the source code.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer readable medium according to claim 1, wherein said specification generating program controls the computer to execute said disposing so as to dispose the comment statement at a position in an aggregate including processing procedures in the source code.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer readable medium according to claim 1, wherein said specification generating program controls the computer to execute said disposing so as to insert the comment keyword in a comment statement already included in the source code.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer readable medium according to claim 1, wherein said specification generating program controls the computer to execute said disposing so as to dispose the comment statement including the comment keyword at a position adjacent to a statement selected from the group consisting of a head statement of consecutive sequential statements, non-control statement, an iteration statement, a selection statement and a branch statement in the source code.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A specification generating method comprising:
disposing a comment statement including a unique comment keyword at all positions in a source code where a comment statement can be disposed;
generating specification data by extracting the comment statements each including the comment keyword and joining the comment statements together;
displaying the specification data on a display device;
changing the comment statement in the specification in accordance with an indication of changing the displayed specification data, when the indication is given through an input device;
and
replacing the comment statement in the source code with the comment statement in the specification data whose comment keyword is coincident with the comment keyword of said comment statement in the source code.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A specification generating method according to claim 5, wherein said disposing is executed so as to dispose the comment statement at a position in an aggregate including processing procedures in the source code.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A specification generating method according to claim 5, wherein said disposing is executed so as to insert the comment keyword in a comment statement already included in the source code.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A specification generating method according to claim 5, wherein said disposing is executed so as to dispose the comment statement including the comment keyword at a position adjacent to a statement selected from the group consisting of a head statement of consecutive sequential statements, non-control statement, an iteration statement, a selection statement and a branch statement in the source code.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A specification generating system for generating specification data by extracting comment statements in a source code written in a predetermined programming language, comprising:

- an input device;
- a display device which displays information;
- a computer which reads a program and executes processes based on the program; and
- a storage medium containing a specification generating program which controls the computer to execute:
 - disposing a comment statement including a unique comment keyword at all positions in a source code where a comment statement can be disposed;
 - generating specification data by extracting the comment statements each including the comment keyword and joining the comment statements together;
 - displaying the specification data on the display device;
 - changing the comment statement in the specification data in accordance with an indication of changing the displayed specification data, when the indication is given through the input device; and
 - replacing the comment statement in the source code with the comment statement in the specification data whose comment keyword is coincident with the comment keyword of said comment statement in the source code.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A specification generating system according to claim 9, wherein said specification generating program controls the computer to execute said disposing so as to dispose the comment statement at a position in an aggregate including processing procedures in the source code.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A specification generating system according to claim 9, wherein said specification generating program controls the computer to execute said disposing so as to insert the comment keyword in a comment statement already included in the source code.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A specification generating system according to claim 9, wherein said specification generating program controls the computer to execute said disposing so as to dispose the comment statement including the comment keyword at a position adjacent to a statement selected from the group consisting of a head statement of consecutive sequential statements, a non-control statement, an iteration statement, a selection statement and a branch statement in the source code.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer comprising:
an input device;
a disposing unit which disposes a comment statement including a unique comment keyword at all positions in a source code where a comment statement can be disposed;
a generating unit which generates specification data by extracting the comment statements each including the comment keyword and joining the comment statements together;
a display which displays the specification data;
a changing unit which changes the comment statement in the specification data based on an indication is given through the input device; and
a replacing unit which replaces the comment statement in the source code with the comment statement in the specification data having a comment keyword coincident with the comment keyword of the comment statement in the source code.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A specification generating method comprising:
disposing a comment statement including a unique comment keyword at a plurality of positions within an interior of an aggregate where a comment statement can be disposed;
generating specification data by extracting the comment statements each including the comment keyword and joining the comment statements together;
displaying the specification data on a display device;
changing the comment statement in the specification in accordance with an indication of changing the displayed specification data, when the indication is given through an input device;
and
replacing the comment statement in the source code with the comment statement in the specification data whose comment keyword is coincident with the comment keyword of said comment statement in the source code.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, wherein the aggregate includes a main block of at least one of a function and a procedure.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, wherein the aggregate includes a main block of a class definition.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, wherein the source code includes source code written in at least one of C, C++, BASIC, Java, FORTRAN, PASCAL or COBOL.

18. (NEW) A computer readable medium containing a specification generating program read by a computer connected to an input device and a display device and controlling the computer to execute:

- creating a comment database by extracting comment statements from positions immediately before aggregates in a source code;
- setting a unique comment keyword;
- determining a unique comment keyword insert position;
- inserting the unique comment keyword at the unique comment keyword position;
- extracting comment statements from processing procedures within aggregates;
- storing the extracted comment statements from processing procedures within aggregates in the comment database;
- disposing a comment statement including a corresponding unique comment keyword at positions immediately before aggregates and at positions in aggregates having processing procedures;
- generating specification data using the comment statements stored in the comment database;
- displaying the specification data on the display device;
- editing the specification data, by adding additional data or revising existing data, using the input device;
- converting the edited specification data into comment statements; and
- replacing the comment statements in the source code with the comment statement in the specification data whose corresponding unique comment keyword is coincident with the corresponding unique comment keyword of said comment statement in the source code,